

Serial No.: 09/493,741  
Filed: January 28, 2000

[469249-00162]].

The Applicants request that the following amendments be made and that the remarks set forth thereafter be considered.

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

*B1 Sub c1*  
27. (Twice amended) An apparatus comprising:

- a) a centrifuge comprising a rotor designed to hold reaction vessels at a tilt away from the axis of rotation; and
- b) a waste reservoir connected to the bottom of said centrifuge to hold liquids expelled from said reaction vessels.

*Sub c2*  
28. (Amended) An apparatus comprising:

- a) a centrifuge comprising a rotor designed to hold reaction vessels at a tilt away from the axis of rotation; and
- b) a waste reservoir connected with a tube to said centrifuge to hold liquids expelled from said reaction vessels.

*B2*  
29. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 27 or 28 wherein said rotor comprises a plurality of holders, each holder designed to hold at least one microtiter plate.

30. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 27 or 28 further comprising a liquid distribution system.

31. An apparatus according to claim 30 wherein said liquid distribution system is integrated into the centrifuge.